

In The Claims:

Claim 1 (amended): An electrical connector for mounting to a substrate, comprising:

a modular ~~an~~ insulative connector housing having ~~a first side, a second side opposite the first side, a first end, and a second end opposite the first end, the first and second ends~~ pieces including holes formed therethrough and first and second hold-down tabs, respectively, for mounting said insulative connector housing to a substrate, said first and second end pieces comprising two separate pieces ~~said first hold-down tab located proximal the first side and said second hold-down tab located proximal the second side such that said first and second hold-down tabs are diagonal; and~~

a plurality of contact pins held in the holes of the insulative connector housing.

Claims 2-29: cancelled.

Claim 30 (amended): An electrical connector assembly, comprising:

a male connector comprising a male connector housing and a plurality of male contact pins held in said male connector housing ~~in at least one row~~, said male connector housing having first and second staggered mounting extensions for mounting said male connector housing to a first substrate; and

a female connector comprising a female connector housing and a plurality of female contact pins held in said female connector housing ~~in at least one row~~, said female connector housing having first and second end pieces having holes formed therethrough for receiving the female contact pins and having first and second staggered mounting extensions, respectively, for mounting said female connector housing to a side of a second substrate, the first and second end pieces comprising two separate structural pieces,

wherein at least a portion of said male connector is adapted to be received within said female connector such that said male contact pins contact said female contact pins to establish an electrical connection therebetween.

Claims 31-51: cancelled.

Claim 52. (New) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said first and second end pieces are joined together.

Claim 53. (New) The electrical connector according to claim 52, wherein said first and second end pieces are joined together using an adhesive bond.

Claim 54. (New) The electrical connector according to claim 1, further comprising a center piece having holes formed therethrough, the center piece comprising a separate piece from the first and second end pieces, wherein the first and second end pieces are joined to opposite ends of the center piece.

Claim 55. (New) The electrical connector according to claim 54, wherein the first and second end pieces are joined to opposite ends of the center piece using adhesive bonds.

Claim 56. (New) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein each of the first and second end pieces includes a polarization feature.

Claim 57. (New) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said connector housing mounts to a printed circuit board.

Claim 58. (New) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said connector housing is an edge connector housing.

Claim 59. (New) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein said first and second end pieces are joined together.

Claim 60. (New) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 59, wherein said first and second end pieces are joined together using an adhesive bond.

Claim 61. (New) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein said female connector housing further comprises a center piece having holes formed therethrough, the center piece comprising a separate piece from the first and second end pieces, wherein the first and second end pieces are joined to opposite ends of the center piece.

Claim 62. (New) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 61, wherein the first and second end pieces are joined to opposite ends of the center piece using adhesive bonds.

Claim 63. (New) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein each of the first and second end pieces includes a polarization feature.

Claim 64. (New) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein said female connector housing mounts to a printed circuit board.

Claim 65. (New) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein said female connector housing is an edge connector housing.